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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,898	09/30/2003	Robert M. Tuniewicz	TUNR14F	6141
75	590 03/01/2004	ζ	EXAMINER	
Richard L. Miller			FRIEDHOFER, MICHAEL A	
12 Parkside Dri	ive			D + 000) II D 4000
Dix Hills, NY 11746-4879			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2832	

DATE MAILED: 03/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If IN Operatiof rereply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Faiture to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). - Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. - Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) is/are objected to.		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Michael A. Friedhofer 2832		10/675,898	TUNIEWICZ ET AL				
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Art Unit: 2832

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 1-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 1-35, "completer/breaker" is an improper form of the alternative making the claim indefinite.

In claim 5, line 4 prior to "pair", insert –one--.

In claim 5, line 7 replace "side edge" with -one of the side edges--.

In claim 17, line 1 prior to "insulative" insert -said--.

In claim 17, line 4 prior to "insulative" insert -said--.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 3. Claims 1-3, 16, and 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miller et al (Re. 34,113).

Miller et al discloses in figures 1-3 a multi-terminal electrical safety switch for simultaneously closing or simultaneously opening electrical circuits connected

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thereto including a terminal block 11; insulative block 24 replaceably attached to the terminal block; and current path completer/breaker 29. The current path completer/breaker replaceably engages the insulative block and the terminal block. The current path completer/breaker may simultaneously complete or break the current paths through the terminal block when engaged with the terminal block thereby simultaneously closing or opening the electrical circuits connected to the terminal block. The current path completer/breaker breaks the current paths when removed from the terminal block which allows the electrical circuits connected to the terminal block to be safely worked on without any inadvertent closing of any of the circuits by virtue of the physical removal of the completer/breaker. The terminal block, the completer/breaker, and insulative block are generally rectangular-parallelpiped-shaped. The completer/breaker includes handle 36 in which the handle extends upwardly from a top surface of the completer/breaker. The handle is generally T-shaped for facilitating gripping of the completer/breaker.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 4. Claims 4-15, 17-25, and 30-35 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
- 5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hicks et al, Kuki et al, Matsumoto et al, and Wise et al teach various removably engageable completer/breakers with terminal blocks.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael A. Friedhofer whose telephone number is 703-308-3304. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6:00 - 2:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 703-308-7619. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael A. Friedhofer Primary Examiner Art Unit 2832

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